award of contract to TPE of Russia by NTPC. CBI's investigation has revealed that approximately Rs.103.00 crores were transferred by TPE, Russia to M/s. Ravina & Associates Pvt. Ltd. as a commission for agent services. CBI suggested NTPC for a suitable action as per the tender conditions and the contract. As informed by CBI, the investigation of the case is in progress.

In view of above, NTPC has proposed for the termination of contract. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Mobile phones and E-waste

†*350. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile phones have a significant role in piling up of electronic waste;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any policy has been formulated by Government to address the ill effects of cell phone waste and for its proper management; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Mobile phones at the end of their life cycle become e-waste. Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is estimated that 1,46,180 tonnes of e-waste was generated in the country in the year 2005, which is expected to increase to about 8,00,000 tonnes by 2012.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 for proper management and handling of hazardous wastes which include e-waste. As per the Rules, units handling e-waste need to register with CPCB. The waste generated is required to be sent or sold to a registered or authorized recycler or re-processor or re-user having environmentally sound facilities for recovery of metals, plastics, etc.

Further, the Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste published by CPCB in 2008, provide the approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste, which include details such as e-waste composition and recycle potential of items of economic value, identification of possible hazardous contents in e-waste, the recycle, re-use and recovery options, treatment and disposal options and the environmentally sound e-waste treatment technologies. The Guidelines emphasize the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility.

Allocation to NMDFC

*351. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) during each of the last three years and the current year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.